

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A seeding apparatus, comprising:
 - 2 a metering wheel having a predetermined circumference which is a function of a
 - 3 predetermined plot length;
 - 4 a rotation sensor to measure the rotation of a wheel and generate a signal in response
 - 5 thereto;
 - 6 a controller to receive at least one signal from the rotation sensor and in response
 - 7 thereto generate a trigger signal;
 - 8 a seed release mechanism to receive the trigger signal and in response thereto
 - 9 dispense seed substantially at said predetermined plot lengths.
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- 11 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the rotation sensor is an electro-mechanical switch.
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- 13 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the wheel circumference is an integral multiple of the
- 14 predetermined plot length.
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- 16 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller includes a programmable logic
- 17 controller or a plurality of relays.
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- 19 5. The apparatus of claim 1; wherein the rotation sensor sends an integral number of sensor
- 20 signals per wheel rotation and the controller sends a trigger signal after receiving a
- 21 plurality of said sensor signals.
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- 23 6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller sends a trigger signal after an integral or
- 24 fractional number of rotations of the wheel.
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- 26 7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the wheel is positioned behind the seeding apparatus.
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- 28 8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the wheel is on a tractor that is attached to the seeding
- 29 apparatus.

31 9. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a user interface coupled to the controller to
32 receive a plurality of seeding parameters input by a user.

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34 10. A method of dispensing seed, comprising:
35 sensing the rotation of a metering wheel having a predetermined circumference which
36 is a function of a predetermined plot length;
37 generating a trigger signal after the wheel has traveled a distance substantially equal
38 to the predetermined plot length;
39 releasing seed in response to the trigger signal substantially at said predetermined plot
40 lengths.

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42 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the rotation sensor is an electro-mechanical switch.

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44 12. The method of claim 10, wherein the wheel circumference is an integral multiple of the
45 predetermined plot length.

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47 13. The method of claim 10, wherein the trigger signal is generated by a programmable logic
48 controller or a relay.

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50 14. The method of claim 10, wherein multiple signals are received from said rotation sensors
51 for each trigger signal that is generated.

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53 15. The method of claim 10, wherein said wheel is positioned behind the seeding apparatus.

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55 16. The method of claim 10, further comprising inputting into a user interface coupled to a
56 controller a plurality of seeding parameters.

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